A PALMACORIXA FROM MEXICO (HEMIPTERA, CORIXIDÆ)

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The genus Palmacorixa was established by Dr. Abbott [1] for a new Corixid which he described from Fort Collins, Colorado, under the name *Palmacorixa gillettii.* The genus is valid, but the author's characterization of it a little unfortunate, because the metathoracic wings are not aborted in both sexes in all cases and his description of the pala of the male is specific and not generic. The following year he described *P. buenoi* from New York. Since that time these species have been reported from other states. I collected both of them from the same pond in Minnesota. The following species from Mexico collected by my friend, Dr. A. Dampf, is new.

Palmacorixa mexicana Hungerford, sp. new

Size: Length 4.85-5.00 mm. Width of head 1.45 mm., which is equal to greatest body width. In the male specimen at hand the head is .7 mm. long; pronotum .5mm.; elytral suture 1.9 mm.; distance from tip of clavus to tip of membrane 1.75 mm.

Color: Vertex of head with longitudinal median brown stripe, brown dot on interocular space near the base of each eye, caudal margin of head brown; pronotum crossed by half a dozen narrow, more or less broken, pale lines; clavus crossed by furcate and broken pale lines, basal ones much broader than those of distal half which are thin, broken and anastomosing, as is also true of corium and membrane; embolium dark on basal half; face, limbs and venter pale, but more or less embrowned.

Structural characteristics: Frontal depression on head of male large attaining the eyes laterally and surpassing them dorsally, front margin of vertex produced, faint median longitudinal carina ending in the caudally produced rear margin of the head. Interocular space both front and rear less than width of an eye; pronotum, narrow, short, surface roughened. Metaxyphus normal in shape. Anterior femur of male incrassate, produced on inner base and bearing a large stridular area; tibia carinate on front side with white fleshy disc on distal end; pala with outer margin produced and incurved; pegs in two rows, one row of large pegs (four) along the lower margin, another crescent-shaped row above, of ten pegs. The long anterior tibia and the short triangular pala with its peg arrangement

1 Ent. News, Vol. XXIII, p. 337.

somewhat resembles those of *A. mercenaria* (Say). Strigil on right side nearly circular and composed of six rows. Second pair of wings appear to be aborted in these specimens.

Described from a male and a female taken in the Xochimilco Sea, Mexico, D. F. August 3, 1924. By Alf. Dampf.

Holotype and allotype in collection of H. B. Hungerford.

KALOTERMES MINOR (Hagen)

This very destructive termite, which works in dry wood and does not need a ground connection like most other termites, has recently been observed to have thoroughly honeycombed the old redwood timbers of one of the bastions of old Fort Ross, built by the Russians in 1812, near the mouth of the Russian River in Sonoma County. The redwood normally is moderately resistant to termite attacks, but in this case has, no doubt, had much of its tannic acid leached out through long weathering, and thus has lost its resistance.—Edwin C. Van Dyke.

UNCOMMON BUPRESTIDÆ

Acmæodera cuprina Spin. This greenish metallic beetle, normally found in Mexico and the West Indies, has been questionably kept on the list of United States Coleoptera on the strength of a single specimen supposedly taken in Texas. It may now be definitely retained, for on October 8, 1927, Miss M. E. McClelland, Assistant Curator of Ornithology and Mammology of the California Academy of Sciences, caught a specimen in Madera Cañon, Santa Rita Mountains, Pima County, Arizona.

Acmæodera kaupii Thom. A specimen of this rare species, not seen by Waterhouse, who studied the material for the Biologia Centrali-Americana, was taken by a friend of mine, Mrs. Mexia, while botanizing, January 1, 1927, near Sebastian, Sierra Madera Mountains, altitude 1800 m., Jalisco, Mexico. Both specimens are now in the collection of the California Academy of Sciences.—Edwin C. Van Dyke.